

Claims 10-13, 15 and 18 have been examined. Claims 1-9, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 have been withdrawn. The applicant chooses to retain the claims in the application until allowance of claims under consideration occurs.

Please amend the claims in the following manner:

Cancel claims 10 and 15 and replace with claims 21 and 22.

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21. A composition comprising a peptide ligand of 5-12 mers known to bind to spores from a particular species of bacteria selected from B. subtilis, B. anthracis, and B. cereus and a sample suspected of containing spores which will bind to said peptide ligand.

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22. A composition of claim 21 comprising a peptide ligand which binds with specificity to the surface of a bacterial spore, said ligand being bound to a solid support.

Please amend the existing claims in the following manner:

11. A composition of claim [10] 22 wherein the solid support is a polymeric support.

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12. A composition of claim [10] 22 wherein the solid support forms a filter.

13. A composition of claim [10] 22 wherein the solid support is a